(d) how many workers have been rendered unemployed due to sickness/lock out of these units; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to revive these sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, the number of small scale industries registered upto 31.03.2002 is 3,76,401. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSI units financed by scheduled commercial Banks. As per the latest information available with the RBI, there were 9,959 sick units in the State of Tamil Nadu at the end of March, 2001. Data on workers engaged/ rendered unemployed in these sick industries are not maintained centrally.

(e) The Government is fully seized of the incidence of industrial sickness among SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units, which *inter- alia* include institutional mechanism in the form of State-level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in Banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the RBI for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units.

Based on the recommendations of the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S.S. Kohli, the then Chairman of Indian Bank's Association, the RBI has drawn up revised guidelines for rehabilitation of sick SSI units, which include *inter-alia* change in the definition of sick SSI units, norms for deciding on their viability, etc. The RBI has circulated the revised guidelines of 16th January, 2002 to all the Banks for implementation.

Incentive to SSIs in Rajasthan

2488. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India and the

Small Scale Industries Corporation has played any part in giving incentive to the Small Scale Industries in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the type of industries revived or newly set up by small scale entrepreneurs in the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) provide assistance for development, promotion and strengthening of all types of small scale industries on all-India basis including Rajasthan through financial, marketing and technology upgradation schemes being operated by them. The specific programmes of SIDBI for Rajasthan consist of assistance under Micro Credit Scheme; Rural Industries Programme; Mahila Vikas Nidhi; Cluster Development Programme; Technology Upgradation Programme; Small Industries Management Programme; Entrepreneurship Development Programme; Awareness Programme etc. The NSIC's support programme for Rajasthan consists of raw material assistance, bill discounting, tender marketing, hire purchase, composite term loan and Government Purchase Registration.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

ISRO's centre in Tamil Nadu

2489. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has set up its centre at Kavalkinar in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu; if so, the details of the research work conducted so far, in the centre;

(b) whether the research work is going on smoothly, without any hurdles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;